

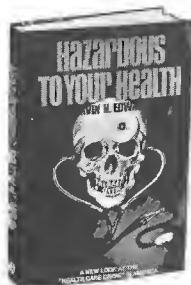
BULLETIN

of the
MAHONING COUNTY
MEDICAL SOCIETY

Volume XLIV

MARCH, 1974

Number 3



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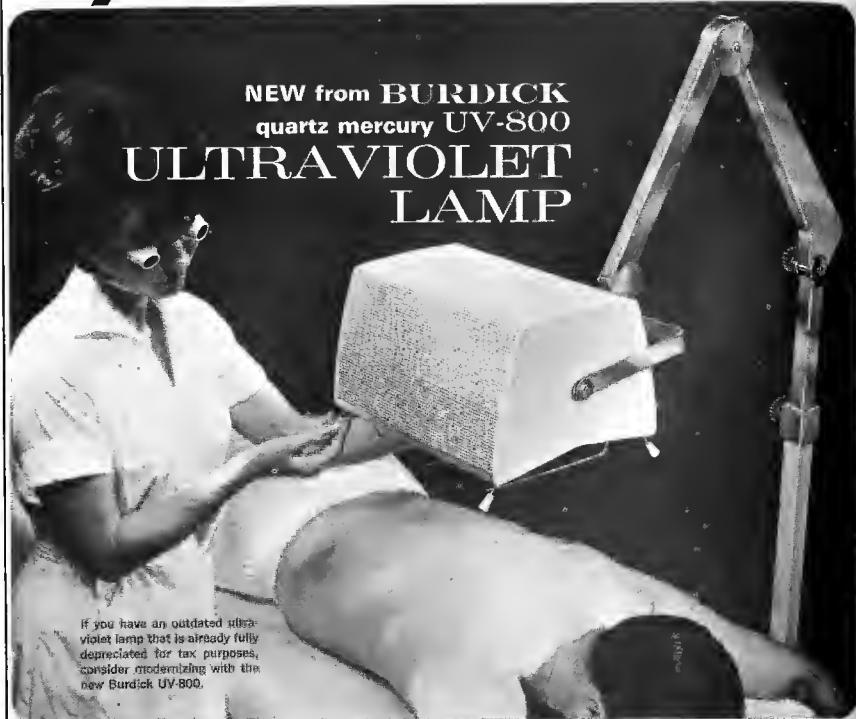
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Mahoning County Medical Society Meetings — 1974

January	March	May	September	November	December
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

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From the Desk of the President

DOCTOR'S DAY

Today is the day to submit your plan to control doctors. The intent is to control the selection of his patients; prescribe the drugs he is to administer; tell him where to practice i.e. the region of the country and more recently which side of town; screen his patients prior to admission to a hospital; have the patient recertified every few days to assure continued admission is necessary; have regular checks to be sure each and every treatment and test is absolutely necessary and proper; demand that countless forms are made out for payment; maintain a freeze on his fees and allow every other industry, with the exception of oil, to be relieved of price control; reduce current fees consistently to a prevailing or "acceptable" schedule; require him to absorb increasing costs of material, office personnel; absorb the decreasing value of the dollar due to inflation (which currently exceeds 8%); work harder and longer to maintain his standard of living; prepare in his "free hours" for re-licensure; recertification in his specialty; select refresher courses with the most "brownie points" in order to accumulate a number sufficient to satisfy increasing pressure from many groups to require a given number per year; give more and more of his time to innumerable groups requiring his service on boards, committees, etc.

This is not yet enough. There is at present more than eight varieties of National Health Plans being prepared in Congress. These include:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Administration Plan | 6. Hospital Association Plan |
| 2. Kennedy-Labor Plan | 7. Scott-Percy Plan |
| 3. Lang-Ribicoff Plan | 8. Javits Plan |
| 4. "Medicredit"-AMA Plan | 9. Pell-Mandale Plan |
| 5. Health Insurer's Plan | |

Still others are in development stages.

This is not yet enough. There are a number of laws, rules, committees, agencies, councils and others who wish to supervise control, set standards, etc.

Here are a "few" of this group:

1. PSRO — Professional Standards Review Organization passed by the Congress in October 1972.
2. QAP — Quality Assurance Program the hospital version to control doctors and the practice of medicine!
3. CLC — Cost of Living Council
4. HMO — Health Maintenance Organization
5. HSAC — Health Security Action Council
6. GTF — Governor's Task Force
7. MAI — Medical Advances Institute
8. Foundations
9. HIC — Health Insurance Council
10. BHI — Bureau of Health Insurance
11. CHAMPUS — Civilian Health and Medical Programs of the Uniformed Services
12. HSMHA — Health Service and Medical Health Administration

These are the issues that face the doctor today! His response must first be education—becoming informed as to what this all means and how they will affect his life and practice. This means many hours of reading as well as attendance at medical society meetings to hear many of the programs explained. The next step is to form a united front with all physicians to bring about a solution free of government medicine and bureaucratic interference and a free choice for patient as well as doctor in a truly American democratic society.

—John C. Melnick, M.D.
President



BULLETIN

of the Mahoning County Medical Society

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MARCH, 1974



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The opinions and conclusions expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Editorial staff nor the official views of the Mahoning County Medical Society.

EDITOR

Louis Bloomberg, M.D.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

J. L. Fisher, M.D.

J. C. Melnick, M.D.

D. H. Levy, M.D.

F. A. Pesa, M.D.

Editorial

FROM CRISIS TO CRISIS

We no longer have problems here in America. There are now only "crises". For example, the *air pollution crisis* is being temporarily suspended for the *energy crisis*. This latter is being controlled by a large increase in cost to the consumer. Now our president tells us that he has a plan to solve our *health care crisis*. This, of course, will be done by increased cost to the consumer (our patients). Even though he says that in his plan, 75% of the cost of the coverage will be borne by the employer, make no mistake, it will be passed on to the customer by increased costs of the product.

Now that PSRO is the law of the land, many of our colleagues have urged us to get in on the ground floor so that we may control it. This naive attitude will only hasten complete control of the practice of medicine by the politicians, who will never allow such a lucrative "pork barrel" to pass out of their hands. Perhaps PSRO means Power-hungry Senators Revenge Organization, because we physicians seem to be their favorite whipping boy.

Let's look at the record achieved by the professional politicians in the handling of our nation's affairs. The school systems are in trouble; the postal service, in spite of its greatly increased cost, is running steadily into more debt; the Watergate affair; and the energy deficit. Yet these are the same people who seek to destroy and/or control our profession.

I feel that it would be more fitting to have a regular review of the professional politicians as to their attendance, voting record, income from all sources, their stock and land options, etc. Let's demand public exposure of all politicians, local as well as national. When they get their own house in order, then perhaps they will be better equipped to pass peer review systems for other professions.

—Louis Bloomberg, M.D.
Editor

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FOUR PROFESSIONS AT MARCH MEETING



Marvin Edwards

The Corydon Palmer Dental Society, the Mahoning County Bar Association, and the 10th District Academy of the Ohio Osteopathic Association have all been invited to attend the March 19th meeting of the Mahoning County Medical Society to hear an outstanding speaker, Atty. Marvin Edwards speak on National Health Insurance and its present status, and the CHAMPUS program in relation to HMO's.

Mr. Edwards was editor of the publication, *Private Practice*, a job he recently resigned in order to run for congress. He is also author of the book supporting the American medical system, entitled, "Hazardous to Your Health, A New Look at the 'Health Care Crisis' in America."

Doctors are encouraged to bring their wives to the meeting. The invitation to the other organizations included an invitation for members and wives. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m. preceded by a social hour at 6:00, at the Youngstown Club. Cost is \$7.00 per person for dinner. Reservations should be made at the medical society office.

Arrangements for the speaker were made by Dr. C. Conner White, program chairman, and Dr. Jack Schreiber, a contributor to *Private Practice* magazine. This meeting marks the continuation of the series of meetings held last year to keep members informed on health legislation.

APRIL DANCE WILL EVOKE NOSTALGIA

"You've Come a Long Way, Doctor!" will be the nostalgic keynote of the annual dinner dance, April 20th, at Squaw Creek.

As always, the dance is being organized for the Medical Society by the Auxiliary. All doctors and their wives, and guests, are invited, and are asked to hold open the Saturday date. Further announcements and an invitation will be forthcoming.

The dance committee wishes to make one important announcement at this time. The doctor may or may not wear a tuxedo, according to his own personal preference—a real break-through for the man who objects to getting into a tux. Now there is no excuse for anyone to miss the greatest social event of the year!

CANCER SYMPOSIUM IS SATURDAY

An all-day symposium entitled "Breast Cancer—A Multidisciplinary Program," will be held Saturday, March 16 at Sheraton Inn, Meridian Rd. beginning at 8:30 a.m. and concluding at 4:00 p.m.

Registration and Luncheon fee is \$5.50. Make reservation with American Cancer Society, 830 E. Midlothian Blvd. Registration must be made in advance. Only 400 will be served at luncheon.

DR. KLODELL ELECTED TO COUNCIL

Dr. Carl B. Klodell has been elected to the council of the Mahoning County Medical Society to fill the position of council member left vacant with the resignation of Dr. F. A. Pesa.

Dr. J. J. Anderson has replaced Dr. Pesa as delegate. Dr. W. E. Sovik moved from the position of council member to replace Dr. Anderson as alternate delegate. Dr. Klodell will serve Dr. Sovik's unfinished term.

Elections were made by a vote of council at the February meeting in accordance with the constitution of the Mahoning County Medical Society.

LETTER — Throat Culture Material Available

Mahoning County Medical Society:

With the incidence of strep infections again on the rise, I thought this would be a good time to remind you that we have the throat culture materials available free of charge to all physicians requesting it. These tests would be done for you by the Ohio Department of Health Laboratories without charge.

You can call either of the numbers listed below requesting material and have someone from your office pick it up.

21 W. Boardman St. Phone 747-2092, ext. 207 or 208
105 Lisbon St., Canfield. Phone 533-5327

Sincerely,
Douglas A. Walsh, D.O.
Health Commissioner

LETTER — Doctor Wanted For Mental Home

Mahoning County Medical Society:

Gateways to Better Living, Inc. is responsible for providing residential services for the ambulatory trainable mentally retarded of Mahoning County under contract to the Mahoning County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Board. We presently operate one home with ten male residents at 1406 Fifth Ave., and another, with a similar number of female residents at 359 Redondo Rd. Other homes are also in the planning stage. Most of the residents are over 18 years of age. To be specific, our problem is in providing adequate medical services. Presently, we are using individual family doctors or the Outpatient Clinic at St. Elizabeth Hospital. We now feel that in order to provide first class medical attention, a contract physician or physicians are needed to provide this service.

Any help or guidance you could give in this matter would be appreciated.

Respectfully,
Robert Knable, Adm.
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March 18
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P. A. Dobson
R. W. Fenton

March 21
F. A. Friedrich

March 23
D. J. Limbert

March 24
R. Roland

March 27
R. L. Gilliland

March 29
C. J. Fisher
L. N. Green
F. C. Tiberio

March 31
P. B. Cestone

April 1
P. E. Krupko

April 4
R. S. Richards

April 5
L. Bloomberg

April 10
R. R. Miller
J. J. Anderson

April 12
A. B. Cinelli

April 13
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April 15
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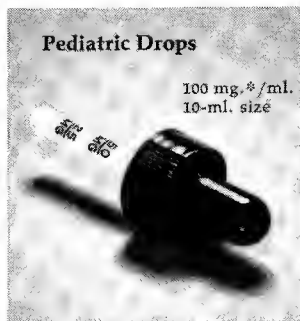
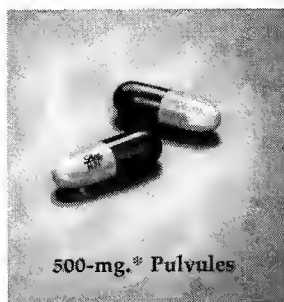
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DELEGATES PREPARE FOR STATE MEETING

The Mahoning County delegation, headed by Dr. John C. Melnick as chief delegate, and including delegates Drs. J. J. Anderson, C. E. Pichette and Jack Schreiber and alternate delegates Drs. William Moskalik, W. E. Sovik, J. W. Tandatnick and C. C. White, are preparing for a series of meetings leading to the OSMA House of Delegates meeting in Cleveland, May 12-15.

Delegates, along with other officers, council members and committee members, will meet with OSMA officials at Congress Lake on Wednesday, March 27th. This will be followed by the Sixth District caucus meeting to be held on Wednesday, April 24th at Congress Lake, for the purpose of discussing the Sixth District stand on resolutions to come before the House at the May meeting.

The Mahoning County Medical Society has submitted the following resolutions for consideration at the 1974 OSMA House of Delegates meeting:

RESOLUTION

Rejection of PSRO and MAI

- WHEREAS: The Professional Standards Review amendment to Title XI of the Social Security Act enacted as Public Law 92-603 was hastily enacted by the 92nd Congress on the false premises (1) that medical care in the United States is of inferior quality and (2) that physicians are responsible for the increase in cost of medical care, and
- WHEREAS: The Professional Standards Review section of Public Law 92-603 will, in fact, decrease the quality of and increase the cost of medical care in the United States, and
- WHEREAS: The Professional Standards Review section of Public Law 92-603 will, in fact, interfere with physicians' ability to make good medical judgments, and
- WHEREAS: The Professional Standards Review section of Public Law 92-603 will destroy the confidential nature of the patient-physician relationship, and
- WHEREAS: The constitutionality of the Professional Standards Review section of Public Law 92-603 is still in question, and
- WHEREAS: The Professional Standards Review section of Public Law 92-603 may well be in violation of the principles of medical ethics of the American Medical Association, which state "a physician should not dispose of his services under terms or conditions which tend to interfere with or impair the free and complete exercise of his medical judgment and skill or tend to cause a deterioration of the quality of medical care," and
- WHEREAS: Medical Advances Institute is, in fact, a corporation whose intent is to become the agent of the Federal Government to implement the Professional Standards Review section of Public Law 92-603, and
- WHEREAS: Affiliation with Medical Advances Institute implies endorsement of the Professional Standards Review section of Public Law 92-603, and therefore be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Ohio State Medical Association completely reject the concept of the Professional Standards Review section of Public Law 92-603, and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Ohio State Medical Association strongly urge its members not to participate in any form of government controlled peer review as exemplified by the Professional Standards Review section of Public Law 92-603, and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Ohio State Medical Association reject any affiliation with the Medical Advances Institute, and recommend to its members that they do not participate in any activity of the Medical Advances Institute either as individuals or collectively

as members of a hospital medical staff, and be it further
RESOLVED: That the Ohio State Medical Association strongly urges its members to participate in every way possible in all activities of existing and time-honored mechanisms of local voluntary peer review to make certain that our patients will continue to receive the highest quality medical care possible at the lowest reasonable cost commensurate with that concept.

RESOLUTION

Appointment of Members to Resolutions Committees

- WHEREAS:** The only voice that the individual physician member in Ohio has at the annual meeting of the OSMA House of Delegates is through the delegates whom he has elected from his own county to represent him, and
- WHEREAS:** Each delegate is both informed by, and responsive to, the individual members of his own county medical society who elected him to represent them, and
- WHEREAS:** Resolutions presented before the House of Delegates are the written testimony of the thoughts and actions of the individual members working together in their own county society meetings, and
- WHEREAS:** The fate of these resolutions is greatly influenced by the composition of the Resolutions Committee to which it is assigned, and
- WHEREAS:** In the past, appointments to each Committee on Resolutions has been made by the president of the Ohio State Medical Association in accordance with Chapter 4, Section 4, of the Bylaws of the Ohio State Medical Association, and
- WHEREAS:** As a truly democratic organization, the Ohio State Medical Association must make every effort to reflect and enact the desires of its *individual members*, without whom there would be no Ohio State Medical Association, therefore be it
- RESOLVED:** That the power of appointment to Committees on Resolutions be transferred from the president of the Ohio State Medical Association to the delegations from each of the eleven councilor districts, allowing each delegation to appoint one member to each Committee on Resolutions, and be it further
- RESOLVED:** That the appointment of the members of the Committees on Resolutions be made *after* the assignment of resolutions to committee, so that a delegate who wishes to address himself to a certain resolution will not find himself arbitrarily assigned to serve on another resolutions committee, thus defeating the purpose of his being at the meeting to represent his individual members, and be it further
- RESOLVED:** That each Committee on Resolutions will elect its own chairman at a meeting attended by every appointed member of that committee, and be it further
- RESOLVED:** That Chapter 4, Section 4, of the Bylaws of the Ohio State Medical Association be changed to provide that appointments to resolutions committees be made by councilor district delegations instead of by the president of the Ohio State Medical Association.

RESOLUTION

AMA Efforts to Repeal PSRO

- WHEREAS:** The AMA Board of Trustees report EE, adopted by the AMA House of Delegates at the 1973 Clinical Convention, has led to widespread misunderstanding, and
- WHEREAS:** The original report EE was amended on the floor of the House of Delegates in an extraordinary session by the addition of a series of principles, including the statement "that the best inter-

est of the American people, our patients, would be served by repeal of the present PSRO legislation," and

WHEREAS: The AMA Board of Trustees, during its January 23-25 meeting, took the position "that repeal is not a viable political effort at present," and

WHEREAS: This action by the AMA Board of Trustees is diametrically opposed to the intent of the AMA House of Delegates, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Ohio State Medical Association instruct the Board of Trustees of the AMA to carry out the wishes of the AMA House of Delegates and to seek repeal of the present PSRO legislation at the earliest possible moment, in accordance with the stated intent of report EE, as adopted at the 1973 Clinical Convention.



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From the Bulletin

FORTY YEARS AGO — MARCH 1934

From the annual report of the Youngstown Hospital: In these days the sick poor seem to have been overlooked. Hospitals failed in their attempt with the government to have hospitalization included with food, shelter and clothing for poor relief. The care of the indigent sick has become too much of a burden for physicians and hospitals.

Plans for a Central Office were maturing rapidly under the leadership of Robert Poling's committee. The Society mourned the passing of M. P. Jones who was loved by everyone. Not until his death was it known that he was the author of a *Bulletin* column known as "Breetus".

Fred Coombs and Carl Gustafson were resident physicians at Youngstown Hospital. T. K. Golden was appointed orthopedist on the staff at St. Elizabeth's. Walter Turner and F. W. McNamara were named the best dressed doctors. Both hospitals announced the opening of their medical libraries. The nurses registry announced a change from a 12-hour day to an 8-hour day.

THIRTY YEARS AGO — MARCH 1944

Dr. Emil Novak, the celebrated gynecologist from John Hopkins told the members that only a small portion of menopausal women need any organotherapy and the use of estrogen has been greatly abused. The poor doctor would probably shudder now to see the amount of Premarin given for osteoporosis, mental depression and such.

Capt. H. E. Hathhorn was transferred from Oregon to a port of embarkation in the east. O. M. Lawton was promoted to Commander. Capt. D. E. Beynon was heard from but couldn't say where he was. Capt. Sam Epstein was in the Hawaiian Islands. Barclay Brandmiller was on his way overseas. Gordon Nelson was in Italy. Brack Bowman and Luke Reed were in California. John Noll was promoted to Lt. Colonel. Al Cukerbaum came home on leave and married Beatrice Sandler of New Castle. Major S. D. Goldberg at Camp Davis, N. C., received word of the birth of his son.

M. M. Szucs was at the U.S. Marine Hospital in Brooklyn. Harold Reese was at a Merchant Marine Medical Center and said he had no use for a stethoscope. Dick Middleton came home on leave to see his new daughter born January 25th.

TWENTY YEARS AGO — MARCH 1954

Editor Detesco said: "Physicians are urged to have plaques telling patients to discuss any grievances with them. We are exhorted to remind our patients that the Society has a grievance committee to which they may direct all complaints. This negative approach places every physician on the defensive. The doctor's integrity and honesty are questioned before the patient even consults him. All this is tantamount to self-accusation."

The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis announced that polio vaccine tests would be conducted this spring on the tissue culture vaccine made by Jonas E. Salk. New antibiotics under investigation were Neomycin, Tetracycline and Eruthromycin. It was discovered that Atabrine was effective against lupus erythematosus and a new plant remedy from India, rauwolfia serpentina would reduce blood pressure.

New members that month were: James Smeltzer, Frank Morrison, Anthony Telego, John LoCricchio, Edward Rizk, Alex Rosenblum, Charles Giering, Frederic D'Amato and Leonard Fagnano.

The Cukerbaums, Firestones, Goldens, Phillipses and Scarnecchias were back from a Caribbean cruise sponsored by the Pan-American Medical Association.

The Rothrocks, Wenaases, Mathays and Fishers flew from Cleveland to Paris March 25th for six weeks' tour of Europe sponsored by the American Academy of General Practice.

Harold Segal opened his office at 2921 Glenwood Ave. for the practice of pediatrics. Fred Friedrich and Robert Fisher moved into the new Boardman Medical Center.

TEN YEARS AGO — MARCH 1964

Youngstown and the Mahoning County Medical Society continue to be represented on the hospital ship HOPE as Dr. E. J. Wenaas arrives from Quayaquil, Ecuador, and Dr. John J. McDonough returns to the ship for his second term of service. Dr. A. E. Billett, Youngstown oral surgeon rounds out the local trio who have seen HOPE service.

Dr. Wenaas was able to make good use of the cataract lenses that he has been collecting as a project in recent years. He took a number of these to Ecuador and gave them to patients. He has sent many lenses to be used in Asia.

The first International Village for Children was being held in Youngstown at the Christ Mission Camp.

Dr. Robert Fisher was a sponsor and urged the Medical Society to cooperate.

Michael Joseph Vuksta was a new member.

An old story from S. Q. Laypius bears repeating:

A guest at the Country Club was swimming in the pool when his trunks came off and he couldn't find them. There was an empty satchel at poolside and in desperation he put it over his head and dashed for the locker room hoping not to be seen or at least not recognized.

Three ladies sitting on the verandah saw the awful sight. Oh, Horrors!

The first one said, "Well I declare, that's not my husband."

The second lady said, "Well, it isn't my husband either."

The third one said, "Heavens, he isn't even a member of the Club!"

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PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL**Feb. 12, 1974**

The regular meeting of the council of the Mahoning County Medical Society was held on Tuesday, Feb. 12, 1974, at the Youngstown Club.

The following application was presented by the censors:

ASSOCIATE — James Wallace Finn, M.D.

The application was approved. The applicant will become a member of the Mahoning County Medical Society fifteen days after publication in the *Bulletin*, unless objection is filed in writing with the secretary before that time.

Dr. Anderson read two drafts of letters to the Mahoning County Welfare Department for council approval in accordance with instructions in the January minutes. The longer letter was discussed and amended. Dr. Anderson will write the final draft. The letter will forward the Welfare Resolution of Sept. 19, 1972 and will state that we consider the "Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment" program against the best interest of the patient and will explain why.

Dr. Anderson reminded the executive secretary that the PSRO Resolution is to be submitted to the OSMA House of Delegates as an official resolution to be considered at the May meeting in Cleveland.

A letter was read from Douglas A. Walsh, D.O., Mahoning County Health Commissioner, calling attention to the availability of throat culture materials through that office. The editor was asked to place the letter in the *Bulletin*.

A letter was read from Dr. Gelbman, chairman of the Mental Health Committee asking permission to send a letter to all area psychiatrists inviting them to be on a rotating panel to be on call from the Probate Court for the purpose of examining patients who request independent psychiatric opinion relating to legal commitment at Woodside Receiving Hospital. Council approved the letter.

A note was read stating that Dr. Greenberg, chairman of a dental society committee, wished to have a committee from the Medical Society to work with him in setting up a dental seminar in the autumn. Dr. Melnick will appoint a committee.

A letter was read from Sidney Moyer, chairman of the Board of Trustees of St. Elizabeth Hospital, in answer to council's letter requesting the stand and attitude of the two hospitals in respect to HMOs. Mr. Moyer expressed the hospital opinion that only physicians can provide access to medical care. No reply has been received from Youngstown Hospital Association.

A letter was read from Dr. Robert H. Whittlesey withdrawing his application for membership due to his relocating elsewhere.

Dr. Anderson noted that the Northeastern Ohio Health Care Foundation, which is in the final operation of closing down, spent between \$275,000 and \$300,000 of government grants and, in our opinion, accomplished nothing. Council was desirous of presenting this information to the public. The secretary was instructed to write to OSMA and to Rep. Charles Carney to attempt to get exact figures.

A copy of a letter written by Dr. Chiasson to the public service chairman of Planned Parenthood was read. The copy had been sent to the medical society for information. Dr. Chiasson called attention to lack of physicians in attendance at an annual medical exam which was included as a service in a pamphlet printed by Planned Parenthood.

Dr. Anderson reported a request from Dr. Hazelbaker asking that the Medical Society look into plans or arrangements for physicians to get gasoline during the shortage. The secretary was requested to write to the Ohio State Medical Association for suggestions.

A copy of a letter from Dr. Caccamo, legislative chairman, to Rep. Carney was noted concerning his request that Rep. Carney support the legislation to repeal the PSRO Law. Rep. Carney's answer was noted. Dr. Caccamo was commended and requested to pursue this endeavor at his discretion.

A letter was read from Gateways to Better Living, Inc., part of the Mahoning County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Board, asking for help in securing a physician for two homes for mental patients which they maintain. The editor was requested to publish the letter in the *Bulletin*.

A letter was read from W. C. Smith Vocational High School asking that their classes for Medical Assistants be brought to the doctors' attention. An article on both this school and Choffin school will be published in the *Bulletin*.

Dr. Tandatnick, reporting for the Constitution Committee, submitted proposed changes requested by council to provide eligibility requirements for election to the positions of Delegate and Alternate Delegate. The motion was made by Dr. Sovik, and properly seconded, that the changes be approved. Motion was passed. Copies of the proposed changes will be mailed to the entire membership and brought to the March 19th meeting for a first reading.

Dr. Melnick announced that three key committees are being activated. The Indoctrination Committee with Dr. Jenkins as chairman, will reinstate the indoctrination meetings. A new Socio-economic Committee, with Dr. Boening as chairman, will assemble helpful information in that field for new members and for the general membership. The Insurance Committee, with Dr. Abdu as chairman, will compile information on major medical insurance.

Dr. Sovik reported on work of the OSMA Committee on Health Manpower, of which he is chairman. He stated that his committee did not know the opinion of the county societies in regard to physicians' assistants and had therefore sent a questionnaire to each society to poll them and find out how many doctors are interested in a physicians' assistant program. Because the question is so involved, council requested that Dr. Sovik be put on the agenda for the March meeting of the Society to explain it. For the purpose of getting the opinion of those present, the motion was made by Dr. Brucoli, and properly seconded, that council be opposed to the physicians' assistant program. Motion was passed. Because of time requirements, the questionnaire for Mahoning County will be returned with the notation of council's action.

Dr. Melnick brought to council's attention that he signed a letter to members concerning the Easter Seal campaign and that this has been done by presidents for this and other organizations in the past. He also requested and received complete financial information on the Easter Seal campaign.

The motion was made by Dr. Wieneke, and properly seconded, that in the future requests for donations from the medical profession to voluntary health organizations should be made through a member appointed by the agency rather than by a letter signed by the president of the Mahoning County Medical Society. Motion was passed.

A letter was read from Ohio Medical Indemnity, Inc. outlining the Blue Shield "Fair Fee Support Program," with a request that the Mahoning County Medical Society provide an insurance review committee to help implement the program. The motion was made by Dr. Pichette, and properly seconded, that the Mahoning County Medical Society reaffirm its stand that it will not act as an agent for any insurance company and will not have an insurance review committee. Motion was passed.

Dr. Pichette made the motion, properly seconded, that a resolution be sent to the OSMA House of Delegates to the effect that in the future members of reference committees at the State meeting be appointed by the individual heads of delegations of each district and that the chairman of each reference committee then be elected by committee members. Dr. Pichette asked council to endorse the concept of the resolution to allow him to have it written and forwarded before the resolutions deadline. Motion was passed.

Meeting was adjourned.

—Howard Rempes
Executive Secretary

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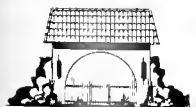
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Warnings: Do not use dietary potassium supplement or potassium salts unless hypokalemia develops or dietary potassium intake is markedly impaired.

Enteric coated potassium salts may cause small bowel stenosis with or without ulceration. Hyperkalemia (>5.4 mEq/L) has been reported in 4% of patients under 60 years in 12% of patients over 60 years, and in less than 8% of patients overall. Rarely, cases have been associated with cardiac irregularities. Accordingly, **check serum potassium during therapy, particularly in patients with suspected or confirmed renal insufficiency (e.g., elderly or diabetics).** If hyperkalemia develops, **substitute a thiazide alone.** If spironolactone is used **concomitantly with 'Dyazide', check serum potassium frequently**—both can cause potassium retention and sometimes hyperkalemia. Two deaths have been reported in patients on such combined therapy (in one, recommended dosage was exceeded; in the other, serum electrolytes were not properly monitored). Observe patients on 'Dyazide' regularly for possible blood dyscrasias, liver damage or other idiosyncratic reactions. Blood dyscrasias have been reported in patients receiving Dyrenium (triamterene, SK&F). Rarely, leukopenia, thrombocytopenia, agranulocytosis, and aplastic anemia have been reported with the thiazides. Watch for signs of impending coma in acutely ill cirrhotics. Thiazides are reported to cross the placental barrier and appear in breast milk. This may result in fetal or neonatal hyperbilirubinemia, thrombocytopenia, altered carbohydrate metabolism and possibly other adverse reactions that have occurred in the adult. When used during pregnancy or in women who might bear children, weigh potential benefits against possible hazards to fetus.

Precautions: Do periodic serum electrolyte and BUN determinations. Do periodic hematologic studies in cirrhotics with splenomegaly. Antihypertensive effects may be enhanced in postsympathectomy patients. The following may occur: hyperuricemia and gout, reversible nitrogen retention, decreasing alkali reserve with possible metabolic acidosis, hyperglycemia and glycosuria (diabetic insulin requirements may be altered), digitalis intoxication (in hypokalemia). Use cautiously in surgical patients. Concomitant use with antihypertensive agents may result in an additive hypotensive effect.

Adverse Reactions: Muscle cramps, weakness, dizziness, headache, dry mouth; anaphylaxis; rash, urticaria, photosensitivity, purpura, other dermatologic conditions; nausea and vomiting (may indicate electrolyte imbalance); diarrhea, constipation, other gastrointestinal disturbances. Rarely, necrotizing vasculitis, paresthesias, icterus, pancreatitis, and xanthopsia have occurred with thiazides alone.

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